

September 5, 2021

## Elders' Newsletter

"I KNOWD I SHOULDNT HAVE TRAVELED ON FRIDAY THE 13TH" exclaimed the elderly miner! I was conducting fish habitat assessments in the River of No Return Wilderness Area in Idaho and had returned to the Big Creek trailhead to re-supply (looking back it was August 13, 1993). I recall being in my tent the evening it happened. The miner had parked his old pickup and 2-horse trailer containing a horse and a mule on the steep slope leading down to the parking area. He had applied the parking brake and gone for a short walk to stretch his legs after his trip. Suddenly the brakes gave way, sending the truck, trailer, horse & mule down the slope where it crashed into an embankment. I helped the miner extract his shaken but otherwise sound pack animals when he said the words written above to me with great zeal, conviction, and remorse. There was absolutely no question that he blamed the incident on his decision to travel on an "unlucky day".

I did a little research today, there are as many as three Friday the 13ths per calendar year, so it is a relatively common occurrence. I assume my miner friend lived his entire life in fear of those days, a fear called "Paraskevidekatriaphobia". His intense fear had no-doubt delayed his accomplishments and denied productivity over decades.

In Colossians 2:16-23, the Apostle Paul warns the church in Colossae about beliefs and practices similar to the one impacting the miner I met that evening. We hope you will join us in person or online this Sunday.

John, for the Grace Harbor Elder Team

Do you want someone to pray with you?

Please call the church office at 907-747-5706.

### Upcoming Events

#### Sunday, September 5, 2021

- 10:30 AM Worship Service

#### Tuesday, September 7, 2021

- 7 PM Men's Bible Study—Teen Room

#### Wednesday, September 8, 2021

- 6 AM Morning Prayer—Auditorium.
- 7 PM Women's Bible Study—Zoom

Lead Pastor: John Aden Long  
john@sitkagraceharbor.com

Associate Pastor: Stewart T. Pook  
stewart@sitkagraceharbor.com

Pastor Emeritus: Skip Clark  
skipclark7@gmail.com

#### Elders

Sam Carter  
Jack Davis  
Vaughn Hazel  
Eric Holmgren  
Scott McArthur  
Aaron Routon

#### Deacons

Jayson Christner  
Kyle Ferguson  
David Urias

Office Manager: Candice Carter  
Book keeper: Eileen Chanquet  
graceharbor1904@gmail.com

Office email:  
graceharbor@acsalaska.net  
Website: www.sitkagraceharbor.com

